High quality schools

1741. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's pronouncement in his address to the nation on Independence Day, 2007 to the effect that Government would establish 6,000 new high quality schools—one is every block in the country, is being enforced in the country;

(b) whether any scheme has been drawn for the purpose;

(c) the number of blocks selected, if any, State-wise;

(d) the nature of support envisaged by Government;

(e) whether the scheme is being implemented or proposed to be implemented in Goa; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (f) The Prime Minister in this Independence Day Speech on 15.08.07 has announced the decision of the Government to support 6,000 high quality model schools throughout the country, at the rate of one in every block, to set standards of excellence for other schools in the area. All blocks in the country, including blocks in Goa, are to be covered by the scheme.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttarakhand

1742. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Kendriya Vidyalayas, at present, working in Uttarakhand;

(b) whether Central Government proposes to open few more such schools in the State; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) There are 41 functional Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the State of Uttarakhand.

(b) and (c) Opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya depends upon receipt of a viable proposal from the sponsor i.e. State Government/Public Sector Undertakings etc. committing free land and temporary accommodation, availability of adequate number of students of specified categories, approval of the competent authority and availability of funds etc.

NAAC accredited colleges and universities

1743. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colleges and universities in the country accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) during the current financial year, till date;

(b) whether a large number of colleges and universities have never been assessed for quality and standards by the body set up for the purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that all the colleges and universities get accreditation from NAAC in order to improve the academic standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to information furnished by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), it has accredited 39 colleges and re-accredited 3 universities and 6 colleges during the current financial year.

(b) to (d) Presently, the process of assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions by NAAC is voluntary. In order to create awareness amongst various stakeholders, including colleges and universities, the NAAC has helped formation of State Level Quality Assurance Coordination Committee in 21 States and has brought out over 175 publications. It also disseminates information through its website, print and electronic media. With a view to cover a large number of institutions the NAAC has adopted a new methodology of assessment and accreditation from April, 2007.

Assistance to Jharkhand under SSA

1744. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount was received by the Jharkhand Government under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and other projects/missions from the Ministry during the last four years, year-wise and project-wise;

(b) the details of money spent out of those funds year-wise, district-wise and project-wise;

(c) how much funds are lying unutilized with the State Government; and

(d) how much improvement can be seen from utilization of those funds in the field of education, both school and higher education sector and the details thereof, districts-wise, scheme-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Details regarding funds released and expenditure incurred by Jharkhand under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-day-meal Scheme and National Literacy Mission during the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The capacity of Jharkhand for utilization of funds under SSA has shown improvement over the years.